

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on February 17, 2010 was filed after the filing date of the instant application on April 14, 2004. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicants' amendment filed on October 26, 2009 has been entered. Claims 1, 4, 7-13, 15, 16, 19-25, 27, 33-39, 41, and 42 have been amended. No claims have been canceled. Claims 43-45 have been added. Claims 1-45 are still pending in this application, with claims 1, 15, 27, 41, and 42 being independent.

Note: Claims 1, 4, 7-13, 15, 16, 19-25, 27, 33-39, 41, and 42 have been amended, and three new claims (claim 43, 44, and 45) have been added. The Examiner cannot be completely assured that there is no new subject matter in these claims. If there is added material which is not supported by the original disclosure, Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 7, 19, 33, and 42 are objected to because of the following informalities: “ - - the extension of the the user - - -” should be changed to “ - - the extension of the user - - -”. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. Claims 1-8, 10-20, 22-34, and 36-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sarp et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0180555 A1 hereinafter “Sarp”).

Regarding claims 1, 15, 27, and 41, Sarp teaches a system, a method (Figs. 1-14) and a computer-readable medium encoded with logic (Fig. 14, paragraphs [0067]-[0068], and [[0072]) for enhanced extension mobility (Figs. 3A-3B, Extensions), the system comprising one or more processing units collectively operable to:

access user input (Fig. 4A, step 430 User Inputs virtual Extension Number) indicating a desire of the user to logon at the endpoint (Fig. 3B, Logical/Physical Mapping Port 3) in a shared mode according to which the endpoint concurrently supports an extension of the user and one or more other extensions (Fig. 3B, Virtual Extensions: 3002, 3004, 3006, 3008, User ID: Jimi, Bob, Janis, Ben) of one or more other users (Fig. 1, Fig. 3B, Fig. 4A, paragraph [0036]); and

in response to the user input (Fig. 4A, step 430 User Inputs virtual Extension Number) indicating a desire of the user to logon at the endpoint in a shared mode according to which the endpoint concurrently supports an extension of the user and one

or more other extensions (Fig. 3B, Virtual Extensions: 3002, 3004, 3006, 3008, User ID: Jimi, Bob, Janis, Ben) of one or more other users, configure the endpoint to concurrently support an extension of the user (Fig. 4B, 460 Associate Physical Extension of Telephone with Input Virtual Extension Number) and one or more other extensions (Fig. 3B, Virtual Extensions: 3002, 3004, 3006, 3008, User ID: Jimi, Bob, Janis, Ben) of one or more other users (Fig. 1, 120 Dynamic Configuration Module, Fig. 3B, Figs. 4A-4B, paragraphs [0038] and [0040]).

Regarding claims 2-3, and 28-29, Sarp teaches the computer-readable medium and one or more of the processing units are located at the endpoint (Fig. 1, 101 Telephone System, 120 Dynamic Configuration Module), and are located at a server remote from the endpoint (Fig. 1, 120 Dynamic Configuration Module, 130 Provisioning Computer) (Fig. 1, paragraphs [0028]-[0031]).

Regarding claims 4, 16, and 30, Sarp teaches to prompt the user to select between private mode (Fig. 11A, 1120 Present Prompt for Physical Extension Number) and shared mode (Fig. 4A, 420 Present Prompt for Virtual Extension Number) at the endpoint, the selection by the user providing the user input (Fig. 11A, 1130 User Inputs Physical Extension Number, Fig. 4A, 430 User Inputs Virtual Extension Number, paragraph [0038], i.e., shared mode, and paragraphs [0053]-[0054], i.e., private mode).

Regarding claims 5, 17, and 31, Sarp teaches to prompt the user to enter an extension (Fig. 4A, 420 Present Prompt for Virtual Extension Number) of the user to logon at the endpoint (Fig. 4A, 430 User Inputs Virtual Extension Number); access an extension entered by the user (Fig. 4B, 460 Associate Physical Extension of Telephone with Input Virtual Extension Number); and configure the endpoint to support the entered extension (Fig. 4B, 470 Deliver Virtual Extension Configuration Data to Telephone) (Figs. 4A-4B, paragraphs [0040]-[0041])

Regarding claims 6, 18, and 32, Sarp teaches to prompt the user to enter a password (Fig. 4A, 440 Present Prompt for Password) to logon at the endpoint; access a password entered by the user (Fig. 4A, 450 User Inputs Password); determine whether the entered password is valid; and if the entered password is valid (Fig. 4A, 455 Entry Valid? Yes to 460), configure the endpoint (Fig. 4B, 460 Associate Physical Extension of Telephone with Input Virtual Extension Number) to support the entered extension (Figs. 4A-4B, paragraphs [0039]-[0040]).

Regarding claims 7, 19, and 33, Sarp teaches in response to an incoming phone call for the user received at the endpoint (Fig. 6, 610 Receive Inbound Call to Virtual Extension Number at PBX), to indicate the extension (Fig. 6, 620 Look Up Physical Port Based on Virtual Extension Number) of the user (Fig. 6, paragraph [0045]);

Regarding claims 8, 10, 20, 22, 34, and 36, Sarp teaches to display the extension of the user at a display screen (Fig. 5, 510 Display Screen) of the endpoint to indicate the phone call for the user (Fig. 1, Fig. 5, Fig. 6, paragraphs [0043]-[0045]), to play a ring tone corresponding to the extension of the user to indicate the phone call for the user (Fig. 1, Fig. 2, Fig. 5, paragraph [0035], i.e., ring style for the extension).

Regarding claims 11, 23, and 37, Sarp teaches in response to a request from the user to place an outgoing phone call from the endpoint: prompt the user to enter the extension (Fig. 4A, 420 Present Prompt for Virtual Extension Number, 430 User Inputs Virtual Extension Number) of the user prior to an outgoing phone call from the endpoint; and generate signaling data for communication with the outgoing phone call that identifies the entered extension of the user (Fig. 1, Fig. 3B, Fig. 4A, Fig. 8, 820 Look Up Virtual Extension Configuration Data Associated Physical Port, 830 Process Inputs Based on the Virtual Extension Configuration Data, paragraph [0047]).

Regarding claims 12, 24, and 38, Sarp teaches to generate signaling data for communication with every outgoing phone call from the endpoint according to a predetermined extension (Fig. 1, Fig. 3B, Fig. 8, paragraph [0047]).

Regarding claims 13, 25, and 39, Sarp teaches in response to the user input indicating a desire of the user to logon at the endpoint in a private mode (Fig. 11A, 1120 Present Prompt for Physical Extension Number) according to which the endpoint

supports only an extension of the user (Fig. 10, Physical Extension 3002 Physical Port 3, Physical Extension 3004 Physical Port 2, etc., Fig. 11A, 1130 User Inputs Physical Extension Number), to configure the endpoint according to one or more preferences of the user (Fig. 10, Fig. 11A, paragraphs [0051]-[0054]).

Regarding claims 14, 26, and 40, Sarp teaches in response to an outgoing phone call from the endpoint, to cause one or more of one or more call detail records (CDRs) and one or more billing records to be updated to indicate a calling extension of the outgoing phone call from the endpoint (Fig. 1, 125 Database Memory, 130 Provisioning Computer, Fig. 3A, paragraph [0034], i.e., records are generated for each extension and stored in the database).

Regarding claim 42, Sarp teaches a system (Figs. 1-14) for enhanced extension mobility (Figs. 3A-3B, Extensions), the system comprising one or more processing units located at an endpoint (Fig. 1, 101 Telephone System) and collectively operable to:

access user input (Fig. 4A, step 430 User Inputs virtual Extension Number) indicating a desire of the user to logon at the endpoint (Fig. 3B, Logical/Physical Mapping Port 3) in a shared mode according to which the endpoint concurrently supports an extension of the user and one or more other extensions (Fig. 3B, Virtual Extensions: 3002, 3004, 3006, 3008, User ID: Jimi, Bob, Janis, Ben) of one or more other users (Fig. 1, Fig. 3B, Fig. 4A, paragraph [0036]); and

in response to the user input (Fig. 4A, step 430 User Inputs virtual Extension Number) indicating a desire of the user to logon at the endpoint in a shared mode according to which the endpoint concurrently supports an extension of the user and one or more other extensions (Fig. 3B, Virtual Extensions: 3002, 3004, 3006, 3008, User ID: Jimi, Bob, Janis, Ben) of one or more other users, configure the endpoint to concurrently support an extension of the user (Fig. 4B, 460 Associate Physical Extension of Telephone with Input Virtual Extension Number) and one or more other extensions (Fig. 3B, Virtual Extensions: 3002, 3004, 3006, 3008, User ID: Jimi, Bob, Janis, Ben) of one or more other users (Fig. 1, 120 Dynamic Configuration Module, Fig. 3B, Figs. 4A-4B, paragraphs [0038] and [0040]);

in response to an incoming phone call for the user received at the endpoint (Fig. 6, 610 Receive Inbound Call to Virtual Extension Number at PBX), indicate the extension (Fig. 6, 620 Look Up Physical Port Based on Virtual Extension Number) of the user (Fig. 6, paragraph [0045]);

in response to a request from the user to place an outgoing phone call from the endpoint: prompt the user to enter the extension (Fig. 4A, 420 Present Prompt for Virtual Extension Number, 430 User Inputs Virtual Extension Number) of the user prior to an outgoing phone call from the endpoint; and generate signaling data for communication with the outgoing phone call that identifies the entered extension of the user (Fig. 1, Fig. 3B, Fig. 4A, Fig. 8, 820 Look Up Virtual Extension Configuration Data Associated Physical Port, 830 Process Inputs Based on the Virtual Extension Configuration Data, paragraph [0047]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. Claims 9, 21 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarp in view of Marcus et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,933,488 hereinafter "Marcus").

Regarding claims 9, 21, and 35, Sarp discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 7, 19 and 33). However, Sarp does not disclose expressly to audibly announce a name of the user to indicate the phone call for the user. Although Sarp teaches to display the information associated with the call, ringing style, and greeting style (Fig. 1, Fig. 2, paragraph [0035], and Fig. 5, paragraph [0043]).

In the same field of endeavor, Marcus discloses a system and a method to automate an announcement system (Marcus - Fig. 1 – 30 ANNOUNCEMENT SYSTEM, 32 SPEAKER, col. 3 lines 1-4) and the audible announcement of a name of the user to indicate the phone call for the user (Marcus – Fig. 1, col. 3 lines 10-14, col. 4 lines 33-40). The advantage of Marcus is additional level of security can be provided the check access and announcement access parameters (Marcus – Figs. 2-3, col. 2, lines 59-63, and col. 3 lines 15-18).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide Sarp with the audible announcement of a name of the user to indicate the phone call for the user, as taught by Marcus, since Sarp teach the greeting style, and thus adding the audible announcement of a name of the user to indicate the phone call for the user is to apply a known technique to a known

device ready for improvement to yield predictable results (see KSR – MPEP 2143).

One having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to make such a modification to provide additional level of security for the check access and announcement access parameters, as per the teachings of Marcus.

7. Claims 43-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarp in view of Baffes et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,292,792 hereinafter “Baffes”).

Regarding claims 43-45, Sarp discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claims 1, 15 and 27 above). Sarp further teaches to access user input indicating a desire of a user to logon at an endpoint in a private mode (Fig. 11A, 1120 Present Prompt for Physical Extension Number) according to which the endpoint supports only an extension of the user (Fig. 10, Physical Extension 3002 Physical Port 3, Physical Extension 3004 Physical Port 2, etc., Fig. 11A, 1130 User Inputs Physical Extension Number); in response to the user input indicating a desire of the user to logon at the endpoint in a private mode according to which the endpoint supports only an extension (Fig. 11B, 1160 Swap Physical Extension of Telephone with Input Physical Extension Number) of the user, configure the endpoint to support only an extension (Fig. 11B, 1170 Deliver Physical Extension Configuration Data to Telephone) of the user (Fig. 10, Figs. 11A-11B, paragraphs [0051]-[0059]).

However, Huang might not clearly disclose the user can be concurrently logged on at multiple endpoints. Although, the feature "the user can be concurrently logged on at multiple endpoints" is old and well known in the art (e.g., user can concurrently logon to different computers, another example is in the USPTO - an examiner can be concurrently logged on at multiple computers/workstations such as logged on the office computer/workstation and the examiner leave the computer/workstation for training, but remains logged on, and then again the examiner logs into another computer/workstation in the training laboratory). At the USPTO and many other business an employee who is logged on at work may also log on concurrently when he/she goes home (e.g., work at home). Many other examples are also available to show this the feature of concurrently logging on to different endpoints is extremely old and well known. Even at home one may log on using different computers.

In the same filed of endeavor, Baffes teaches a user can be concurrently logged on at multiple endpoints (see Baffes – Figs. 1-6, 34 USER, column 14 lines 26-36, and lines 51-58, i.e., a user logons and leaves the first computer, but remains logged on and the user goes to a second computer then again logs into this second computer), and Baffes further teaches that there is a need to provide information delivery to a user from any of multiple configurations (see Baffes – column 3, line 4 through column 4 line 6).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the features for a user can be concurrently logged on at multiple endpoints, as taught by Baffes, into the method and system of Sarp in order to enhance the extension mobility. Since, Sarp teaches the

user can logon at an endpoint wherein the endpoint supports only an extension of the user and thus adding the user can be concurrently logged on at multiple endpoints is to apply a known technique to a known device ready for improvement to yield predictable results (see KSR – MPEP 2143). One having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to make such a modification to provide the information delivery to a user from any of multiple configurations, as per the teachings of Baffes.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicants' arguments with respect to claims 1-45 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KHAI N. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)270-3141. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 6:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad F. Matar can be reached on (571) 272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/K. N. N./
Examiner, Art Unit 2614
04/21/2010

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